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SENT BONN 21, REPEATED INFORMATION DEPARTMENT 20, USAREUR 7.

REFERENCE: BERLIN 1341, BONN
BERLIN 11 TO BONN 11 DEPARTMENT

CINCUSAREUR SX 4988

1. AT MEETING OF POLITICAL ADVISERS TODAY, WE GAVE BRITISH AND FRENCH USAREUR VIEWS AS EXPRESSED THIRD REFTEL. BRITISH AND FRENCH POLITICAL ADVISERS AGREED THAT ZAKHAROV'S MESSAGE OF JUNE 28 IMPLIED ACCEPTANCE IDEA OF SINGLE DOCUMENT FOR BOTH PERSONNEL AND CARGO, WHICH WOULD PRESENT ADVANTAGES IN WAY OF SIMPLIFICATION. HOWEVER, THEY STATED THEY FRANKLY DID NOT SEE HOW TEXT OF ZAKHAROV'S MESSAGE OF JUNE 28 COULD BE INTERPRETED AS COMMITMENT TO ACCEPT AMERICAN POSITION ON DOCUMENTATION OF CARGO. ON CONTRARY, (IF ANYTHING, THEY FELT LANGUAGE (AT LEAST OF ENGLISH TRANSLATION) DEFINITELY SUPPORTED INTERPRETATION ALONG LINES SOVIET POSITION STATED BY MARKUSHIN. MOREOVER, WHATEVER MAY HAVE BEEN SAID BY ZAKHAROV AT ORIGINAL MEETING WITH HODES, THEY ARGUES THAT RECENT COMMUNICATION MUST REALISTICALLY BE CONSIDERED AS MOST AUTHORITATIVE STATEMENT OF SOVIET VIEWS.

2. ALL THREE POLITICAL ADVISERS AGREED AT OUTSET THAT INSPECTION CLAIMS OF SOVIETS MUST CATEGORICALLY BE REJECTED. HOWEVER, BRITISH AND FRENCH TOOK POSITION THAT THERE WAS NO OBJECTION IN PRINCIPLE TO FURTHER SPECIFICATION OF CARGO INTO ARMAMENT, FOODSTUFFS AND OTHER EQUIPMENT, AS REQUESTED BY MARKUSHIN. MOREOVER, THEY SAID, WHILE LISTING OF WEIGHTS MUST BE DECLINED IMPRACTICABLE, THEY SAW NO REASON WHY NUMBER OF CONTAINERS SHOULD NOT BE GIVEN. THEY SAW ADVANTAGE IN OFFERING TO MAKE THESE CONCESSIONS AT NEXT MEETING WITH MARKUSHIN, WHILE MAINTAINING

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FIRMLY THAT ANY CLAIM TO INSPECT CARGO OF VEHICLES MUST BE CLEARLY ABANDONED. THEY ALSO FELT THAT INCREASED SPECIFICATION OF CARGO COULD BE OFFERED AS QUID PRO QUO FOR POSSIBLE DEMAND PRESENTATION OF IDENTITY DOCUMENTS OF INDIVIDUAL PERSONNEL WHEN MARKUSHIN GAVE HIS REACTION TO PORTION OF SAMPLE DOCUMENT DEALING WITH PERSONNEL.

3. WE ASKED WHAT WOULD BE BRITISH AND FRENCH ATTITUDE SHOULD OUR FINAL INSTRUCTIONS REQUIRE LIMITING NEXT DISCUSSION WITH MARKUSHIN TO DIRECT QUERY REGARDING WHETHER SOVIETS ACCEPT SAMPLE DOCUMENT IN ITS ORIGINAL PROPOSED FORM OR REJECT IT. THEY SAID THEY WOULD REGARD THIS AS UNFORTUNATE SINCE THEY BELIEVED THERE WAS NO POSSIBILITY OF SOVIET AGREEMENT ALONG THIS LINE, AND THEY FEARED RESULT MIGHT BE THAT WHOLE IDEA OF HAVING SINGLE DOCUMENT TO COVER BOTH PERSONNEL AND CARGO WOULD GO OUT WINDOW. WE SAID LAST DANGER MIGHT BE AVOIDED BY LIMITING OUR QUESTION TO MARKUSHIN TO PORTION OF DOCUMENT DEALING WITH CARGO. WE WOULD COMMENT ON PORTION DEALING WITH PERSONNEL ONLY IN MIGHT OF HIS OWN POSITION THEREON WHICH AT LAST MEETING HE HAD PROMISED TO GIVE AFTER RECEIVING FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS.

4. AFTER FURTHER DISCUSSION, BRITISH AND FRENCH AGREED THAT, IF OUR INSTRUCTIONS WERE TO LIMIT US AT NEXT MEETING WITH MARKUSHIN TO POSITION PROPOSED THIRD REFTTEL, THEY WOULD ONCE AGAIN HAVE TO INSIST THAT AMERICAN POLITICAL ADVISER ENGAGE IN LARGELY BILATERAL DISCUSSION AS LOGICAL CONTINUATION OF HODES-ZAKHAROV EXCHANGES. THEY WOULD, HOWEVER, STRONGLY PREFER ALSO TO BE ABLE TO MAKE PROPOSAL ALONG LINES PARAGRAPH 2 ABOVE, AFTER, AS THEY ANTICIPATE, MARKUSHIN REFUSES ACCEPT SAMPLE FORM AS NOW DRAWN UP.

5. COMMENT: WE THINK IT LIKELY THAT ACCEPTANCE OF SAMPLE DOCUMENT BY SOVIETS WITHOUT SOME FURTHER SPECIFICATION OF CARGO WILL BE IMPOSSIBLE TO OBTAIN. WE WOULD THEREFORE PREFER TO GO TO NEXT MEETING WITH A FALLBACK POSITION PARTIALLY ALONG LINES SUGGESTED BY BRITISH AND FRENCH TO BE USED SHOULD IT BECOME CLEAR THAT MARKUSHIN NOT PREPARED TO DISPOSE OF MATTER ON BASIS OF UNAMENDED FORM. GENERAL HAMLETT DOES NOT BELIEVE ANY CONCESSIONS WITH RESPECT TO DOCUMENTATION OF CARGO BEYOND

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BROAD CATEGORIES SUCH AS ARMAMENT, FOODSTUFFS AND EQUIPMENT SHOULD BE MADE. HE FEARS SUCH CONCESSIONS WILL LEAD TO NEW DEMANDS WITH RESPECT TO TRAINS. HE THUS OPPOSES ANY REFERENCE NUMBERS OF CONTAINERS. HENCE WE WOULD RECOMMEND FALLBACK POSITION NOT RPT NOT INCLUDE AGREEMENT TO LISTING NUMBER OF CONTAINERS.

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